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25 October 1963



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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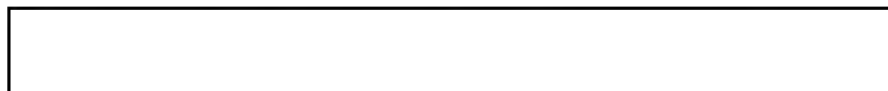
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Austria-Berlin: (Austrian Airlines (AUA) is renewing its pressure for four-power concurrence in its proposed Austria - West Berlin service.)

(In identical letters to France, the UK, the US, and the USSR, AUA states that the route should be approved in reciprocation for nonscheduled Berlin-Austria flights authorized by Vienna for US airlines.)

(AUA last spring enlisted the help of West Berlin Mayor Brandt in a similar effort, but has not pursued the matter in recent months in response to Allied pressures.)

(Establishment of the Austrian route would require negotiation with the East German Government and could have an unfavorable effect on use of air corridors into West Berlin.)

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USSR-Indonesia: (Indonesia's economic difficulties will not be significantly eased by any additional aid the USSR may provide at this time.)

(The Soviet ambassador in Djakarta told the Indian ambassador on 21 October that the USSR will step into the breach and provide economic assistance "since America has decided not to do so." He indicated that large numbers of Soviet technicians would arrive within two weeks but declined to provide further details as to the amount and type of aid involved.)

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(The Soviet Union may provide technical and other assistance in marketing products that were formerly shipped through Malaysian ports. The USSR may also offer Djakarta another modest economic credit for imports on current account, and may agree to a further postponement of repayments on Indonesia's debt for past Soviet foreign assistance.)

(The Russians, however, are unlikely to compensate for the loss of Singapore's trade and its facilities for marketing rubber and petroleum, or for the suspension of about \$40 million worth of financial aid from the US and IMF. The USSR has always been reluctant to provide direct financial support, and would probably be even more reluctant now in view of its own heavy foreign exchange demands.)

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Honduras: Colonel Oswaldo Lopez Arellano, leader of the postcoup government, evidently intends to be a presidential candidate in the next election.

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Civilian supporters of Lopez have already begun organizing a new political party in his behalf, [REDACTED] They believe that in two years the new party will have sufficient strength to ensure Lopez' election.

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The Nationalist Party, which backed the 3 October coup, probably would accept Lopez as its candidate, but it is questionable whether he would be able to win without resorting to intimidation and rigged elections.

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*Congo: (The arrest of the three top labor leaders yesterday may provoke demonstrations and disturbances by union rank and file.)

(The arrests were ordered by the three-man "emergency committee" headed by Minister of Defense Anany after what appeared to be increasingly successful efforts to halt the strike of civil servants and teachers.)

(Presumably the committee concluded that the continued freedom of the labor leaders who had been calling for a new government represented a potentially greater risk than any disorders. Embassy officials, however, have felt that tough handling of the leaders would be the one thing which might set off disturbances.)

(There are some 5,000 Congolese gendarmerie and army troops in the Leopoldville area. Their support of the government for a short period is likely but would probably crumble in any extended disorders.)

(There is already some evidence that antigovernment left-wing "nationalist" elements have had some success in influencing General Mobutu's supposedly elite and most loyal paracommando units.)

(Meanwhile, "nationalist" elements, who fled to neighboring Brazzaville in early October, are using the Congo (Brazzaville) radio to incite the Leopoldville population against the government.)

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NOTES

Denmark: Prime Minister Krag's Socialist - Radical Liberal coalition government may be forced to call early elections. In a parliamentary test on 23 October the government mustered only 84 votes while its opponents, who include both extreme leftists and the more conservative parties, got 83. Another test of parliamentary strength may occur on 26 October.

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Indonesia: An Indonesian decree of 22 October, providing the death sentence for a variety of economic and political crimes, apparently is intended to suppress opposition to or evasion of various aspects of the government's anti-Malaysia policy. The economic break with Singapore and the diversion of supplies to the military will cause dislocation and hardship in varying degrees throughout the islands. The severity of the punishment decreed is a sharp departure from Indonesia's heretofore generally mild authoritarianism.

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